

REMARKS

Claims 1-60 are pending in the present application. In light of the interviews conducted with the Examiner on 13 September 2008 and 17 September 2008 where all claims were discussed including tethering the claim limitations to the physical structure of the preamble as well as the optionally limitation, the claims have been amended. The above claim amendments have been made consistent with the Examiner's suggestions with the exception of the use of "optionally" language. Applicants maintain that alternative expressions are permitted if they present no uncertainty or ambiguity with respect to the question of scope or clarity of the claims. See MPEP 2173.05(h). See also *Ex parte Cordova*, 10 USPQ2d 1949 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1989) the language "containing A, B, and optionally C" was considered acceptable alternative language because there was no ambiguity as to which alternatives are covered by the claim. The present claims clearly disclose the optional limitation and there is no ambiguity as to the alternative covered by the claim.

The amendments should therefore obviate all outstanding rejections.

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CONCLUSION

Based on the Amendments and Remarks above, Applicants respectfully requests allowance of all pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,
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